

Former Big Sandy coach leads team to Super Bowl

By De'Airra Marchbanks
Staff Writer

This year, Black History Month includes Super Bowl 41 and, for East Texans, one coach is especially important.

Chicago Bears Coach Lovie Smith led his team to the Super Bowl this past Sunday, bringing joy to East Texans who know him.

Smith attended Big



Lovie Smith, head coach of the Chicago Bears.
Courtesy photo

Sandy High School in east Texas, and, after graduating from college, he came back to coach the high school football team for one year.

Coach Smith quickly moved on, not losing sight of his goal to someday be an NFL coach.

Big Sandy Transportation Maintenance Director Wayne Weese was a junior basketball player at Big Sandy when Coach Lovie was a senior.

Weese said Lovie was someone special then, and everybody knew it.

"I never would have thought Lovie would be the first

black coach to make it to the Super Bowl," Weese said.

"Lovie always graced the hallways with a smile," Weese said, "The only difference I see in him over the years is a little bit of a hair loss."

Although the game is now just a memory, Weese says he will not forget the lesson he learned during this Super Bowl Season, "learning how to celebrate others."

When he was a freshman, Big Sandy's Assistant Football Coach Dennis Glenn was coached by Lovie at the high school.

Coach Smith was eight years older than Glenn, and he said he looked up to him as he played on the Big Sandy field.

No stranger to championship games, Glenn was the team manager when Lovie led Big Sandy to the championship back in 1973 and 1974.

Glenn said he wanted to be like Lovie because he had his priorities straight. He didn't yell or scream and was an all-around player's coach.

Coach Lovie's big success will affect the Big Sandy football team.

Coach Glenn said he
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Head football coach let go after 2 years

By Chris Shepperd
Editor

Head Football Coach Jamie Critchlow was fired by TJC on Jan. 24 following his arrest for DWI.

"We deal with this on a case by case basis," Fred Peters, director of marketing and public information, said, "We thoroughly reviewed the details of this situation and made a decision."

Following the ar-

rest, TJC officials asked Critchlow to resign. Critchlow asked for 24 hours to seek legal counsel.

After no response by Critchlow in the allotted time, TJC officials decided to terminate him effective immediately.

Peters said to his knowledge this type of situation has not occurred in his 14 years working on campus.

Critchlow had deep ties

to TJC. He started off as a player from 1993-1994 and was First Team All-American in 1994. He earned his associate's degree here in 1994.

He then served as assistant coach from 1998-2003 supervising the offensive line.

He replaced Dale Carr in 2005 as Head Coach. In his two seasons as Head Coach the Apaches went 9-9.

Campus Focus

Campus Focus Reporter: Dustin Phillips

What do you look forward to most this semester?

*Elementary
education major*

Sammie Davis
said, "Graduation this
summer and the Trio
Banquet."



Graphic design major

Jeremy Purslow
said, "The smiles on my
professors' faces when I
walk in the room."



*Speech communications
major*

Mary Pond
said, "Graduating in May
and the Trio Banquet."



Biology major

Ceron Rolle
said, "Meeting new people
at TJC, preferably women,
improve my tennis game
and strong academics."



Mac, PC computers battle for popularity with students

By Ashlie Osburn
Staff Writer

For years the debate on whether one should purchase a Macintosh or a PC has simply been a contest between the two operating systems and their applications. Window's PC computers have dominated conventional student settings for the past 10 years due to the familiarity and background most students have with Window's operating system. Many students have little or no knowledge of how

to use a Macintosh operating system.

In the past, college students needed fewer specific office applications, both in school and in future careers. This is no longer the case with the unveiling of Microsoft Office and other office applications for Macintosh systems. Matt Duncan, computer information systems instructor, said when it comes to practicality, "Each college is going to teach the operating system that most students

will come into contact with in the workforce." It is only reasonable that students would benefit most from learning whichever operating system they will need for their future career plans and goals.

The Mac's strength in graphics matches well the superiority of Window's office applications. From a graphics point of view, the Macintosh operating system contains superior hardware that enables it to perform better. A Macintosh is a more practical choice

for careers in journalism, graphic arts, music and film.

Another advanced quality of the Macintosh is its ability to withstand viruses. Duncan said, "People who are writing viruses are writing for the most available platform, which is the PC." In today's society, dependence on computers should dictate a more responsible choice of which operating system will resist viruses and ongoing attacks that could corrupt valuable information.

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Super Bowl, Lovie Smith

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tells his players all the time that greatness ran up and down this field just like they do. They too one day will see their dreams become a reality.

Although both Glenn and Weese say they are Dallas Cowboy fans, on Sunday they traded in their cowboy hats for Bear paws.

TJC Psychology Instructor Dr. Otis Webster said he's not a Chicago Bears fan, but he is a Lovie Smith fan.

Webster said Lovie is a man of character, which supersedes just being a coach. Sunday's championship full of history does however have a double-edged sword.

"It took 41 years for two black coaches to make it to the Super Bowl, far too long. Americans should be glad but saddened," Webster said.

ster said.

Webster hopes TJC faculty and students learn the importance of inclusion from Super Bowl 41. He says everybody should be involved when it comes to fulfilling their dreams, no matter what color, religion or gender.

The whole community of Big Sandy came together to watch Coach Lovie in the biggest game of his life.

TJC drafting major Jeremy Spencer said the Colts have a great offense but he rooted for the Bears because of their tough defense. His high school coach always told him, "Offense wins games but defense wins championships."

Win or lose Coach Lovie Smith has already touched down in history as the first black coach to make it to the Super Bowl.

Campus Clinic offers medical advice

By Robin McDavid
Staff Writer

Students often wonder why they pay a \$30 health fee at TJC and what the Campus Clinic does. The Clinic is staffed by two nurses and one physician from the East Texas Medical Center.

TJC has not yet found a permanent physician, but they have employed two permanent nurses. The nurses do everything including working reception, assisting the doctor of the day, doing sutures and giving shots. The Campus Clinic gives flu shots and blood tests.

Patients must have health insurance or they will be billed for these services. Students can also get free physicals in the Clinic. The nurses are very helpful in answering questions. "Nothing is not going to

be lost by coming and asking a question," TJC Clinic Nurse Frank Escobedo said.

The Clinic staff also can give medicines to treat certain conditions, including diabetes and high blood pressure. The staff understand some college students do not have insurance and cannot afford it, so they try to put these students on the Medication Assistance Program. This program helps students with chronic conditions get free medication through pharmaceutical companies.

The Campus Clinic cannot give pap smears, prescribe birth control medications or administer tests for sexually transmitted diseases, but they can guide students to other medical help. The clinic is always open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.



By Chris Shepperd
Editor

Jack Bauer has seen it all. Or has he?

A new season of Emmy Award winning "24" has Jack Bauer doing things even he thought were impossible.

Each new season consists of 24 episodes. Each week covers one hour in the day. The entire show is shot in real time, making it a day the cast and crew will never forget.

The current season finds Jack Bauer back from China and quickly immersed in the search for nuclear weapons here on American soil. He must decide who can he trust.

"24" guarantees heart-pounding, edge-of-your-seat excitement with each new episode.

Now in its sixth season, Jack Bauer, played by Keifer Sutherland, started out as a field op. for the Counter Terrorism Unit. He now finds himself as a civilian fighting for freedom.

If you have missed the first part of the new season, you can catch up by seeing it online at www.fox.com.

Competitive speech forensics team reinstated, six join

By Katie Hall
Editor

The TJC competitive forensics team represented TJC at the Texas Intercollegiate Forensic Association's Spring Championship at West Texas A&M University Feb. 2-4.

Fourteen students tried out for the TJC team, but only six were chosen, based on their knowledge and skills in competitive speech. They are Josh Cooke, Jacob Hopson, Jordan Innerarity, Christina Ivey, Caleb Longino and Adam Rios.

Ivey alone represented TJC at two tournaments in January.

The team will compete at three tournaments: Feb. 9-11 at Texas Community College Speech/Theatre State Forensic Tournament in Fort Worth, March 9-11 at the Phi Rho Pi Regional Tournament at Kingwood College in Houston and April 9-14 at the Phi Rho Pi National Tournament in Houston.

Colleges and universities across the world participate in speech forensics,

Forensics Director M'Liss Hindman said, and at the tournaments, students are able to engage in various competitive speech activities.

"There are over 14 possible events, including debate, public speaking and oral interpretation," Hindman said. "Forensics is not just about competition, but it helps students develop all aspects of their communication skills."

In the competitions, team members must be able to analyze and debate

topics as well as research thoroughly and quickly. In interpretation events, students receive a prose or poetry piece which they must study and then perform.

"I am thrilled to have the forensic team back. TJC has a rich history of being one of the top forensic programs in the country," Hindman said. "I know that these students are going to work hard to try and gain back some of our reputation, and we'll have a lot of fun while we're working," she said.

Safety director stresses importance of fire drills in dorms

By Nikki S. Bell
Staff Writer

Campus Safety Director, Randy Melton said "Fire drills are not done on the actual grounds where classes take place, but they are regularly done with students who live in the dorms."

"Fires don't discrimi-

nate," Melton said. "The most important tool to remember in case of a fire is to stay calm and know your emergency exits."

Because we are adults, the College decision is not to interrupt classes with fire drills, Melton said. Always be suspicious of fires, and remember if you hear

a fire alarm: turn off electrical equipment, close doors against the fire, use fire exits and stairwells and calmly evacuate to an open area 100 yards away from the affected building.

If you discover a fire: activate the nearest fire alarm pull station, notify Campus safety at 903-510-

2222 and/or call 911.

Calmly evacuate to an open area 100 yards away from the affected building. Remember if you're caught in smoke, take short breaths through your nose.

Dorm residents have special emergency evacuation instructions:

If your door is hot to

the touch, do not open it.

Roll up a wet towel and place it at the base of the door to prevent smoke penetration into the room.

Turn on the lights, close the windows and room door, but do not lock them.

"We need to see inside the room from the outside," Melton said.

If your door is cool to the touch, open it slowly.

If you encounter heat and/or pressure in the hallway, leave your room, carefully closing the door behind you and proceed to the nearest exit or stairwell. If possible, alert others on your way out.

If the hallway is clear, close the door behind you.

Always use stairs to evacuate buildings.

If you encounter smoke, stay low to the floor, crawling when possible.

Once outside the building, move far away from the building and wait until you are recalled by an authorized college official, Melton said.

Disabled persons who require assistance should alert their hall specialist and R.A. in advance, so if a situation arises, they can be prepared.

Do not try to remove personal items.

If your clothing catches on fire, STOP...DROP...and...ROLL!!

Always remember; you are not expected to fight a fire yourself.

If an alarm sounds, everyone must exit the building.

Residential advisers exist as on-campus role models

By Drika Maxwell
Staff Writer

In college, students take on different roles, often through the campus jobs they find. These include roles such as officer, student government president or just fulfilling the role as a full time student. Being a residential housing assistant is one of those important roles. Students who

become an R.A. are responsible for the residents in their hall. They must make sure everything gets taken care of. College students already have so many new responsibilities on their plate, some think being an R.A. would just cause more stress.

Tristan King at Lewis Hall, a men's dorm, is a sophomore. He said being

an R.A. can be time consuming and stressful, but he finds it is a great job.

King, who has been an R.A. for four semesters now admits the best part of this role has been interacting in different situations with different types of people from all over the U.S. King defines an R.A. as a friend, mentor, an adviser and someone who is here

to lend an extra ear. Being an R.A. has helped him become comfortable and able to open up to his peers, he said. This job has helped many and will help others because it creates interaction between students.

An R.A. job is an excellent opportunity to meet different people from all across the U.S. and other nations.

Icy weather creates concern, causes schools to close

By Dustin Phillips
Staff Writer

Schools all around East Texas were closed Jan. 17 due to inclement weather and dangerously slick roads. Many TJC students considered it a treat, whereas others thought of it as an inconvenience, but everyone can agree that it was ultimately a wise decision. Fred Peters, marketing and public information director, along with Campus Safety Chief Randy Melton discussed their options early on that frigid Wednesday morning and decided to cancel classes for the day. University Studies Dean Richard Minter said, "The

No. 1 concern in making a decision like this is the safety of students, faculty and staff. Every decision that is made here at the college is ultimately based on that very concern."

Now looking back on the situation, it appears the majority of students could have attended class on that day and it may seem that the authorities overreacted, Minter said. The decisions were based on the best information available at the time, with a forecast that called for freezing temperatures all day.

Very icy conditions would have given a lot of problems to the students

who do not live in Tyler. TJC students commute from all over East Texas so the forecasts for the entire region must be taken into account. Tyler Independent School District was also closed for the day and TJC usually follows suit behind their decisions, Minter said.

TISD has many more employees than the college and therefore they have many more sources of information. This is the first time in more than five years that Tyler Junior College has cancelled classes due to the weather.

The weather in East Texas rarely gets so severe

that it constitutes school closures. Some good news for students is there will not be a makeup day as a result of this, Minter said. That would only occur if classes had been cancelled for an extended period of time. Although the students, faculty and staff do not have to put in an extra day of work, the maintenance crew already has. In a display of great dedication to this school, the TJC maintenance staff always try their best to come to campus to pick up fallen tree limbs, and to keep the campus looking as good as it does.

"Beauty and the Beast" to run Feb. 28 - March 3 in JBT

By Elisa Doyle
Staff Writer

"Beauty and the Beast" children's play will open Feb. 28 in Wise Auditorium and run through March 3. Tickets will go on sale Feb. 21 for \$5. Speech and Theater Instructor Rebecca Faulds suggests that everyone reserve a ticket as quickly as possible because the seats will fill up fast.

Faulds will direct this play which has been in the making since last spring. She said the audience can judge how good the show is.

"Beauty and the Beast" tells about a father and his daughter Belle who move to France, where the young girl doesn't fit in because she is ahead of her time. Instead she dreams of other places where things seem to be a bit more fitting to

her.

One night Belle's father, while traveling to a fair where his invention will be displayed, gets lost in the woods. A Beast finds him, kidnaps him and Belle finds the Beast and her father. The Beast kidnaps Belle instead and they find they have more in common than Belle thought

The Beast has been cursed by a witch who gave him a rose. If he doesn't find true love before the rose dies, he will remain a beast forever.

The cast includes Megan Moore as Belle, Braden Bradley as the Beast, Brooks Burton as Gaston, Beau Garland as Lefou, Cameron Royall as Maurice, Leslie Bell as Silly Girl 1 and Lindsay as Silly Girl 2.

Others in the cast in-

clude: Maurice Laperriere as Monsieur D'arque, Justin Velnosky as Lumiere, Bryce McWilliams as Cogsworth, Holly Bell as Mrs. Potts, Zach Smith as Chip and Lindsay Laperriere as Babette.

Others in the cast include: Grace Johnson as Madame De La Grand Bouche, Rachel Rogers as Enchantress, Micah Sharman as Young Prince and Jason Norton, Kevin Drake and Joe Hamm as wolves.

The chorus includes: Bobby Anthony, Krystalin Aguilera, Christy Carter, Brandy Castaneda, Heather Castaneda, William Collins, Clay Collum, Queila Dos Santos, Brittany Fauss, Randi Henderson and Allyson Hicks.

Other chorus members are: Sheree Johnson, Bryant Juey, Kahlila Mer-

ritt, Megan Miller, Josh Moore, Angela Musick, Dana Padgett, Andy Patterson, Jeanette Peterson, Laci Reardon and Michael Roberts.

Other chorus members are: Micha Sharman, Riley Sharp, Elizabeth Tibbets, Whitney Thrasher, Elizabeth Uribe, Jean Villasana,

Josie Weeks, Josh Whitus and Erin Westmoreland.

Children are Catherine MacPherson and Leif Laperriere.

Others assisting with the performances are: Music Director- Dr. Cheryl L. Rogers, choreography: Dance Director Jennifer

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White boards brighten Potter Hall classrooms

By Sonier Elder
Staff Writer

Starting this semester boards in all the math classes are white. Steve Green, interim department chair of mathematics gave several reasons for this change.

"One thing is cleanliness. We had a hard time getting them cleaned" Green said. Some of the maintenance crew responsible for cleaning the boards had reported allergic reactions to the dust from the chalk boards while cleaning them.

"I surveyed the faculty about what their preferences were and most of the faculty preferred the dry erase. A few preferred chalk but would not object if we moved to dry erase," he said.

"Then I asked our Dean to outfit a number of classrooms and the Dean suggested we request all to be outfitted," Green said.

One reason the faculty may appreciate the dry erase or white boards more is that they can use a variety

of colored markers to highlight and emphasize points. The change to white boards was welcomed because it has better visual appeal and brightens up the room.

The change may seem sudden but plans were on stream for sometime. "It's been in the works since last summer and they were installed over the Christmas break," he said.

Green did not see the price tag but estimates that each board cost \$800. The boards are 16 feet and between 25 and 30 chalk boards were replaced with white boards.

The change makes learning math interesting and even enjoyable, Green said. He hopes the change will enhance the learning experience and positively affect the attitudes of students.

"Going from dark green to white, we expect students to have better attitudes towards math because the rooms are brighter," Green said.

Oscar nominations announced

The 79th Annual Academy Award nominations were announced Jan. 23. The Oscars will air at 7 p.m. Feb. 25 on ABC.

Outstanding Picture: "Babel," "The Departed," "Letters from Iwo Jima," "Little Miss Sunshine" and "The Queen."

Actor in a leading role: Leonardo DiCaprio in "Blood Diamond," Ryan Gosling in "Half Nelson," Peter O'Toole in "Venus," Will Smith in "The Pursuit of Happyness" and Forest Whitaker in "The Last King of Scotland."

Actress in a leading role: Penelope Cruz in "Volver," Judi Dench in "Not on a Scandal," Helen Mirren in "The Queen," Meryl Streep in "The Devil Wears Prada" and Kate Winslet in "Little Children."

Director: Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu for "Babel," Martin Scorsese for "The Departed," Clint Eastwood for "Letters from Iwo Jima," Stephen Frears for "The Queen" and Paul Greengrass for "United 93."

Actor in a supporting role: Alan Arkin in "Little

Miss Sunshine," Jackie Earle Haley in "Little Children," Djimon Hounsou in "Blood Diamond," Eddie Murphy in "Dreamgirls" and Mark Wahlberg in "The Departed."

Actress in a supporting role: Adriana Barraza in "Babel," Cate Blanchett in "Notes on a Scandal," Abigail Breslin in "Little Miss Sunshine," Jennifer Hudson in "Dreamgirls" and Rinko Kikuchi in "Babel."

Other nominations can be found at www.oscars.org.

HPE Center hosts athletic workshop

By Clementine Jackson
Staff Writer

The East Texas Athletic Association held a workshop at the Ornelas Health and Physical Education Center Jan. 27.

The association invited all upcoming juniors and seniors from local high

schools and Dallas and Houston to discuss collegiate athletic programs. More than 80 students attend

One activity was an educational lab in which coaches demonstrated how to assist with lower leg injuries, lower extremities

injuries, functional bracing and speed and agility workouts. Another was a taping contest. Door prizes were given.

Sponsors for this event were East Texas Medical Center, Azalea Orthopedics, Dasani Water and Tyler Junior College.

TJC Apaches look ahead

By Donnie Lee
Staff Writer

The TJC Apache Men's Basketball Team is almost at the half way point of conference play. TJC lost 2 heartbreakers and won two nail biters.

"We played pretty well most of the time," Head Coach Mike Marquis said.

Marquis' goals for this season are good citizenship, being strong in the classroom and taking care of home court.

Another goal is for the freshmen to improve and replace five talented men who will go play Division I basketball. Marquis also

Continued on page 12

Students plan trip to Austin

By Royce Eller
Staff Writer

TJC Student Senate and other organizations will go to Austin Feb. 22 to meet and discuss with legislators the growing difficulties and needs of Texas community colleges.

Their primary focus will be the cost of text books.

Any student who wishes to attend should contact Student Activity Director Scott Nalley in Rogers Student Center, office 235 or call 903-510-2653.

Men's Basketball team falls to San Jacinto

By Chris Shepperd
Editor

The TJC Apache Men's Basketball Team suffered another tough loss. This time it was against conference rival San Jacinto. The loss dropped the Apaches to 13-6 and 6-6 in the conference.

Nate Garner had a game high 30 points on 13-of-18 shooting.

The Apaches were able to score 61 points in the second half while shooting 62.5 percent from the field but that still wasn't enough

to overcome the Ravens.

The Ravens improved to 17-3 for the year with the scoring of five players who had double digits.

With 52 seconds left in the game, Sophomore Center Delbert Simpson hit a free throw to make it 96-91.

But TJC managed to throw the ball away on the next two possessions sealing the victory for the Ravens.

The Apaches next home game will be Saturday Feb. 10 in Wagstaff Gym.



Apaches' Nate Garner shoots over San Jacinto's Kyle Cannon in Tyler's tough conference loss last week. Courtesy photo

T

Score Board

Men's Basketball

TJC d. Arkansas College
Jan. 4 85-71

TJC d. Angelina
Jan. 6 79-74

TJC d. Lee
Jan. 10 101-91

Jacksonville d. TJC
Jan. 13 78-79 (OT)

TJC d. Panola
Jan. 18 84-83

Navarro d. TJC
Jan. 20 78-70

TJC d. Lon Morris
Jan. 24 96-92 (OT)

Blinn d. TJC
Jan. 27 60-44

San Jacinto d. TJC

Jan. 31 101-95

Women's Basketball

TJC d. Angelina
Jan. 6 79-64

TJC d. Jacksonville
Jan. 13 75-66

Panola d. TJC
Jan. 18 82-76

TJC d. Southern Univ.
Jan. 20 73-34

TJC d. Lon Morris
Jan. 24 76-65

Blinn d. TJC
Jan. 27 57-65

TJC d. San Jacinto
Jan. 31 69-62

Disc golf flies onto campuses, students get involved

By Michelle Stein
Staff Writer

A sport rapidly sweeping across Tyler and college campuses is disc golf or frisbee golf as some may call it. Because frisbee is a trademark name, the term disc golf was developed. Currently there are two local courses, one in Lindsey Park and one on the campus of UT Tyler. A course could possibly be constructed soon by Green Acres Baptist Church South which will feature an 18-hole course.

The objective is to throw a flying disc into a wire basket and chain target known as a pole hole. Players begin by driving from the initial tee area and

continues to throw from each landing point until they reach their basket.

The disc is shaped like a frisbee but is much smaller. A frisbee is aerodynamically designed to fly like a hot air float. The design of a disc is similar to a small jet in flight. The original design was created by Ed Hedrick, who is known as the father of disc golf. Upon his death, he wanted to be cremated and have his ashes made into discs so that he could fly forever. Shoppers can find these signature discs with his face implanted on the front.

Much like traditional golf, disc golf has nine and 18-hole courses. You can

also find a 24-hole course at Centennial Park in Lawrence, Kan. Rather than measuring in feet as on a traditional course, these courses are designed in yards usually ranging between 250-400.

The first course was built in 1975 at Oak Grove Park in La Canada Flintridge, CA, and the most recent course was built at Cal State in Monterey Bay. Most courses are in a grassy public park or college campus, but more challenging courses can be found in hilly, partially wooded areas.

On Saturday, Jan. 27, the second annual Tyler Ice Bowl took place. 27 players showed up for the event.

This is an annual disc golf tournament held nationally at different courses. The Tyler event was held at Lindsey Park from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The founder of the Ice Bowl was Rick Rothstein who started the first Ice Bowl 10 years ago. The Tyler division was founded by Lawrence Nance.

"The Ice Bowl is put on by local disc golf clubs around the country. It is a non-charitable fund-raising event with donations given to the food bank of your choice," Nance said. This tournament is a great way to replenish the East Texas Food Bank after the holiday season.

The St. Cloud Ice Bowl

raised the most money this year. They were able to donate \$21,610 to an area food bank with a total of 118 players. In true Ice Bowl spirit, they braved the course in temperatures topping at 10 degrees.

The next time you can't find anything to do in Tyler, put on some comfortable shoes and check out this popular attraction which gathers both young and young at heart. It's a free course but players need to bring their own discs. It is a fun and entertaining sport to learn and a great way to shed those holiday pounds. For additional rules or course information look up the Disc Golf Association online.

TJC employs Ellis as new assistant baseball coach

By Dalfie Fraction
Staff Writer

Apache baseball will open the 2007 season with a new assistant and pitching coach on board.

Robert Ellis, the newest addition on the coaching staff brings already star-studded starting lineup plus

an addition with heavy experienced Head Coach Jon Groth.

"Coach Ellis has a high level of experience in baseball and that is very valuable," Groth said.

Ellis has 16 years of professional experience playing for several major

league teams: California Angels, Arizona Diamondbacks, Texas Rangers and Los Angeles Dodgers.

Ellis also continues to be known for his high level of coaching experience.

He has worked closely with numerous professional pitchers including

Carthage native, NY Mets pitcher Phillip Humber and Whitehouse native, Seattle Mariners pitcher Travis Chick.

The Apaches are now 2-1 as they opened the season on Jan. 26 with a double header win against Texas College 2nd team

with scores of 6-0 and 10-0, a second win on Jan. 27 against Texas College 1st team with a score of 21-2 and a loss against Bossier Community College with a score of 1-5 all of which were non-conference play.

Baseball

TJC d. Texas College
Jan. 26 Game 1 6-0

TJC d. Texas College
Jan. 26 Game 2 10-0

TJC d. Texas College
Jan. 27 21-2

TJC d. Bossier Parish
Jan. 29 5-1

TJ
Upcoming Games

Men's Basketball

Feb. 7 at Kilgore

Feb. 10 vs Paris

Feb. 14 vs Angelina

Feb. 17 at Lee

Women's Basketball

Feb. 7 at Kilgore

Feb. 10 vs Paris

Feb. 14 vs Angelina

Baseball

Feb. 5 vs Panola

Feb. 9-10 at Brookhaven

Feb. 12 at Hill

Feb. 16-17 vs Eastfield

Feb. 19 at McLennan

Hudnall Planetarium

By Mary Hale
Staff Writer

The Hudnall Planetarium opened Jan. 20. Students no longer have free admission. The prices are adults \$3 and children \$2. Groups are welcome and should call Misty Thompson at 903-510-2312 to make reservations.

The Planetarium is open Tuesday-Thursday at 4p.m. and one weekend a month at 2p.m.

They present a variety of shows, and The East Texas Astronomical Society presents a lecture show once a month. Cowboy Astronomer will run the weekend of the 10-11, and on the 24 the East Texas Astronomical Society will present their lecture show.

Planetarium Director-

Tom Hooten said Hudnall Planetarium was built in 1963. At that time many planetariums were popping up around the world in response to the USSR satellite. At first, the shows were always sold out, but now only about 10,000 come there each year, he said.

As Director of the Hudnall Planetarium, Mr. Hooten said he is breathing new life into the Planetarium with his good attitude and dreams for the future. He does not complain about the problems the planetarium has or things it doesn't have. His commitment and goals are focused on making a child's first experience with the Planetarium interesting enough that they will stay interested in science.

Venue showcases local talent

By Jenna Burns
Staff Writer

A voice echoes around a small room while a rhythm of strings being strung makes music as a guitarist plays. These are just a couple of talents performed at The Venue.

Once a month from 9 to 11 p.m. on Saturday students can watch these talents come alive or they can perform in the Jean Brown Theatre in Wise Cultural Arts. Sometimes The Venue moves to the Arcadia coffee shop downtown on Spring Street.

"The Venue was designed to give students the opportunity to perform works that they have created without being in a production or choir," Theater major Erik Faulds said.

It's name is a collaboration between Green Acres Baptist College Ministry and Dr. David Crawford's speech-theater department chair.

"Anybody who is a TJC student can participate. We have had anything from original poetry to unplugged acoustic music, acting monologs, skits and we have even had a couple of dancers perform too. Anyone with a talent is welcomed," Faulds said. As host of The Venue, Faulds introduces performances and participates in the fun as well.

"I have been known to play my original composition on the piano and guitar," he said.

Those interested can sign up on Dr. Crawford's

office door or e-mail him at dcra@tjc.edu. They should list their name and what they plan to perform. Performances must be between five and eight minutes long.

"At the end of this semester, it will be two years solid that The Venue has been in progress," Faulds said. "They serve free coffee and pastries to anyone who participates or watches."

The Venue will be open Feb. 10, March 24, April 14 and May 5. Flyers on campus will have more information too.

"It helps support fellow students while they perform and it gives students a chance to experience culture," Faulds said.

More campus activities to increase Student Activity Fees

By Royce Eller
Staff Writer

Many people believe TJC is not like other community colleges in Texas or the United States. Pride and traditions of former students have made TJC what it is today, and though, over the past 80 years many changes have taken place to benefit the school it is now our time to contribute.

A survey completed by students last fall indicated most students want additional activities such as headline concerts and student services.

Students at 4 year institutions pay up to \$500

per semester for an activity fee.

An activity fee is a charge that all students pay to fund campus activities or events brought to TJC. The fee would be put towards an account directed for the spending of services, activities, concerts and whatever else students want.

Student Senate, in collaboration with Student Activities Director Scott Nalley and Student Affairs Vice President Dr. Austin A. Lane have been working up a proposal in which TJC would have this "Student Life Fee". In order to have what some call memorable

programming or retention services, it requires at least twice the budget allotted for the ENTIRE year just for one event!

This will improve First Year Experience, a program increase for residential students in 2008, general services such as student activities, student judicial affairs, the library, testing center, residential life, campus safety, athletics, intramural sports, recreational service and all registered student organizations as well as Student Senate.

"We want to ensure that the students make this de-

cision, through their governing body, which is the student senate; and if the results are favorable then I will make a recommendation to the college president," Lane said. "If the fee is passed by the senate we see this as an opportunity to further enhance our

student life at TJC."

Students who wish to voice their opinions can do so at the Feb. 6 Student Senate Meeting at 4 p.m. in the Apache Rooms of RSC. The proposed increase in activities fee will go to Dr. Lane and the TJC Board of Trustees for consideration.

"Beauty and the Beast"

Continued from page 5

Bailey, set crew: Speech-Theater Instructor Clarence Strickland; costumes: Speech-Theater Instructor Jacque Schackelford; Props: Speech-Theater Instructor "Vic" Victor Siller;

house: Speech Instructor Lara K. Smith; Box Office: Speech-Theater Instructor M'Liss S. Hindman; Public Relations Department Chair: Speech-Theatre Dr. David W. Crawford; Lighting Director JR Brown.

Financial Aid recipients must follow degree plan

By Mary Hale
Staff Writer

The 150 percent maximum time frame rule (suspension report) is performed once a year at the end of the spring semester. This occurs after the registrar's office compiles a history of the student's grades. Then the Financial Aid office determines whether students on financial aid are following the proper degree plan.

Financial Aid Technician Laura Stevens said if

your degree plan requires 60 hours, the state says you are allowed additional time to complete your degree hours and still receive financial aid. Students who do not graduate within those 90 hours will be placed on the 150 percent maximum time frame rule, so they are on financial aid suspension until they meet with their academic adviser. Students are allowed to file an appeal, but during the appeals process they can participate in the installment plan if

they are already registered. If the appeal is denied, they may request that it goes to a second level committee. If denied by the second level, the student will no longer receive financial aid from TJC.

Not only does the 150 percent maximum time frame rule stop students from constantly changing their majors. If they change their major and it is not updated in the system, the time frame rule allows the counselor to correct the

student's degree plan. Stevens advises that students should be careful about dropping classes, because whether or not they are paid for by financial aid or by the student, they will be counted towards their 150 percent maximum time frame rule. Those who get into this situation should meet with their academic adviser to avoid any finan-

cial aid suspension.

"I have a genuine concern for the students to be able to receive an education," Stevens said. "Many students require financial aid in order to get an education. Working in financial aid allows me to assist these students to my greatest ability," Stevens said, "an education is the key toward a better life."

Scholars get advantages

By Mary Hale
Staff Writer

TJC Scholars Academy is a program that provides advanced students many advantages: smaller classes, a "Scholars Academy only" study lounge equipped with computers, refrigerator and microwave and an advisers office. Scholars get honors program listed on their transcript, assistance with transfer plans, they participate in volunteer work and give back to the community.

English Instructor Mandy Stubblefield became the Scholars Academy coordinator in 2006. She and English Instructor Joan Bruckwicki teach the leadership development course to demonstrate teamwork in the work place.

Along with smaller classes and different lecture styles, the Scholars Academy students also attend the East Texas Historical Society's lecture at Stephen F. Austin State University.

The Academy started fall 1999. Students must have a 23 ACT composite score, 1070 combined SAT score to get in. To graduate they must complete 18 hours of honors classes including English 2353, three hours of Scholars Academy seminar courses, 12 hours community service each semester and keep a cumulative 3.5 GPA.

Some of their volunteer efforts are the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, ARC of Tyler, highway clean up and East Texas Animal Rescue Fund. They also tutor for the Literacy Council.

Stubblefield is excited about the program. She said she brings a lot of energy and new ideas to the Academy. She believes in volunteering which plays a very significant role in society. "It is an excellent combination of linking volunteering and academics," she said.

Activities fill Black History Month

By Mary Hale
Staff Writer

This year TJC has created a Black History Month Committee which has planned numerous activities to celebrate contributions African Americans have made to the U.S.

Black History Month began in 1926 in the U.S. as Negro History Week. According to the web site "Kids Turn Central," February was chosen because both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglas have February birthdays.

Campus activities set by the Black History Month Committee are:

Feb. 7 MESA (Multi-Ethnic Student Association) Activity Fair from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. second floor of RSC.

Feb. 12 essay contest in RSC 235, winner receives

MP3 player. The contest is sponsored by AT&T.

Feb. 13 Multi-Ethnic Forum from 9-11 a.m. in the Jean Browne Theatre.

Feb. 15 Dr. Jocelyn Elders from 7-9 p.m. in the RSC Apache Rooms. Refreshments will be served.

Feb. 16 Apollo Night Talent Show will open to the public at 8 p.m. in Wagstaff Gym. Tickets cost \$1 for TJC students and \$3 general admission. Winners will receive \$100 first place, \$50 second and \$25 for third.

Feb. 19 Poetry Contest in RSC room 235, deadline Friday 23. Winners receive an MP3 player. The contest is sponsored by AT&T.

Feb. 21 Coffee House 6-7:30 p.m., RSC second floor. Reading Instructor Essie Childers will read poetry.

Feb. 26 Black History Dinner 7 to 9 p.m. in the Apache Rooms. Tickets cost \$5 for students, \$15 general admission.

Essay and poetry contest winners will be announced at the Black History Dinner. They must be present to win.

Adjunct Speech Instructor Amy Fowler, Black History Month chairperson, said she brings a love for all people and a heart of equality, not just during one month of the year, but every day. She quoted Carter Woodson, founder of Negro History Week, "We should emphasize not Negro history, but the Negro in history. What we need is not a history of selected races or nations, but the history of the world void of national bias, race, hate, and religious prejudice."

Patriots for Christ offers college students fellowship

By Christa Woody
Staff Writer

Patriots for Christ is a new group formed for all college students in Tyler, whether they attend TJC, the University of Texas at Tyler or Texas College. Whether old, young, married, single, lived here all your life or just recently transplanted here, all college students are encouraged to participate.

Patriots hopes to help college students who are overwhelmed with 40 hours of work, 12 hours of classes and a million hours of study their classes require. Patriots intend to become closer to Christ, to laugh, to smile, to enjoy enthralling conversation and gain a deeper understanding of God and his intentions and purposes for their lives.

Students meet and share their time with others at 7 p.m. Wednesday nights at the Patriots Center near the gymnasium on the UT Tyler campus. They encourage fellowship in the company of like-minded students.

"Not only do we meet Wednesday nights but the girls like to get together for a Girls' Night Out," TJC Psychology Instructor Rhonda McKinzie said.

"We are always looking for a reason to meet up besides on Wednesday, whether for holiday or Super Bowl parties, or any reason whatsoever to spend time with others", Patriots reporter Bekah Vickers,

said.

"We are focused on topics that affect students in their immediate situations, such as sex, drugs, romance, friendship, studies and all that is involved in the college life and atmosphere".

"Our purpose is to reach out and help those struggling with their faith and to reach out to the unbelievers and show them that there is hope and someone who cares," Patriots Resource Speaker Mark Edge said.

Students who walk into the Patriot Center any Wednesday can hear the voices of men and women lifting their hearts and minds to God to encourage and fellowship with others. They sing, pray and converse over issues affecting college students' lives.

Born last semester, Patriots for Christ has blossomed because it is open to all students in local area colleges, Don McClaugherty said. Patriots is a place where students can go to get answers to any question they have, a place where they feel welcome and a place which many feel is like a home and family. That's the feeling all Patriots want others to take away when they leave.

"We have all been created for a purpose and it is up to us to listen to God's plan and find our purpose, I believe that this organization helps to achieve that by helping one another under-

stand more about faith and discover more that God has promised us," Tracy Woody said. Patriots for Christ was formed for college students in the Tyler area to come

together to devote time to Christ and Christian fellowship.

"We invite you to come and experience the most amazing feeling that you

can have. We want you to know that God loves you and so do we," Edge and Vickers said.

PATH volunteers survey homeless

By Tamar Dos Santos
Staff Writer

During this unexpected cold winter season, the need for shelter and warmth for the homeless in Smith County has become a more

in need for the past eight years. SCCH partnered with the Texas Homeless Network to simultaneously survey the homeless population in numerous counties in the state. Many

social issues or unavoidable problems in life? One group surveying Thursday met a young man who had come from Seattle to avoid weather worse than ours.

The survey will also help determine services people need, get a head count and obtain characteristics of Tyler's itinerant population. The Coalition will review survey results and determine gaps in services they provide.

Homelessness is caused by poverty. PATH and the SCCH prevent homelessness by providing financial assistance with utilities, rent,

mortgages and prescriptions. PATH also owns houses they rent to low-income families. The Coalition and PATH constantly need volunteers to help the needy.

For more information about these organizations, visit www.TylerPATH.org or call 903-597-4044. The Volunteer Corner in the Tyler Morning Telegraph on weekends lists other service opportunities.



Courtesy photo

evident and pressing crisis.

Jan. 25, volunteers at PATH (People Attempting To Help) surveyed the homeless and handed out gift bags containing warm blankets, basic toiletries and a meal. Students from TJC and UT Tyler participated.

The Smith County Coalition for the Homeless (SCCH) has worked closely with PATH and other organizations to help those

homeless persons have set up temporary encampments in wooded areas in Tyler. Unfortunately, these shelters do not provide adequate protection from the elements.

These surveys compare and contrast the demographics of the homeless throughout the state to answer questions such as what brings the homeless to our area: Hurricane Katrina, recent snowstorms,

Students can use financial aid for books, meals

By Mary Hale
Staff Writer

Students can purchase Apache Bux, gift cards and other items by accessing their financial aid before Pell Grant refund checks go out.

Each semester when Pell Grants are awarded students are frustrated because they have money in their account, but no money in their pocket to eat or buy books. They do not know that whether they live on or off campus they can purchase Apache Bux to buy meals in campus dining places. Alison McGowen, interim food service director for Valley Services Inc. said Apache Bux count dollar for dollar.

Students pick up an Apache Bux slip from the Apache Cafeteria and take it to the business services office in the White Administration Building. They will check the account to see what Pell funds the student has available. Students have no limit to the amount of Apache Bux they can purchase, but they must remember the Bux do not roll over to the next semester.

Once the business office charges the student's account, they take the slip back to the Apache Cafeteria and their information will be entered in the cafeteria system. Student's use Apache Bux in the Cafeteria, Deli Depot, and The Java Cup.

The cafeteria is a buffet and students are allowed to go through the line twice after their initial purchase.

The Deli Depot is not a buffet. They serve sandwiches, frito pies, and hot dogs along with chips and candies. Their daily special is a sandwich, a bag of chips and a drink for \$4.

The Java Cup offers Starbucks coffee, plus many items ranging from personal hygiene to cookies, candy, and vienna sausage. McGowen encourages students who have meal plans to purchase Apache Bux, because with the meal plan you can only purchase meals and not the extra cookies, chips, and icees that are offered. Although

students cannot use credit cards at the Apache Cafeteria, Deli Depot, or The Java Cup, parents or students can call McGowen at 903-510-2516 to purchase Apache Bux by phone with a credit card. The funds will automatically be deposited into the student's account to use in one of the food courts.

Buying books and supplies becomes a problem also when Pell Grants are not available on the first day of class. Financial Aid Technician Laura Stevens said, the bookstore will set a day to open before the semester starts. After a student's tuition and fees are taken out of their Pell Grant, those who have enough funds left can

charge their books at the TJC Bookstore. The Bookstore can check what funds the student has available, and deduct that from your account. With their current TJC I.D. and their social security number, students can purchase books, supplies, movies, cd's, TJC apparel, gift cards and other items. They cannot buy food items in the Bookstore with a Pell Grant, but they can buy the Bookstore's gift card and purchase anything in the Bookstore including food items. These tricks of the trade with financial aid should assure those students will never go hungry on campus or attend class without their book!

Bell Tower Arts Journal to arrive in March

By Sonier Elder
Staff Writer

One week before Spring break the first issue of the Bell Tower Arts Journal will be distributed on campus.

The 36-40 length Journal is free and will include poems, essays, short stories, digital art, photographs, visual artwork, paintings and graphic art by students.

Advertisements will be on TJC's website and on campus T.V. screens and posters. Submissions will be accepted for the first two months in the Fall for publishing in the Spring.

A selection committee comprising of faculty, advisers, students and representatives determine which items will be published. The graphic arts department is responsible for the cover design and the layout.

The Journal is a collaborative effort of the English and art department and other faculty members. It is spearheaded by English Instructor, Dr. Linda J. Gary and the English honor society Sigma Kappa Delta.

The rationale of the Journal is to provide an opportunity for TJC students to be creative. "We just felt

that a college needed some means of showcasing the literary and artistic expression of TJC students," Dr. Gary said.

"We wanted to highlight not just the literary work of TJC students but the artwork, and tremendous talent of TJC students, to showcase their abilities and the wonderful training they receive" Dr. Gary said.

Dr. Gary was very impressed with the quality of submissions from the students and the hard work by the selection committee in making the final choices that would be published.

"Nearly all the submis-

sions were fantastic their were many submissions worthy of publication but we just didn't have the space," Dr. Gary said.

The project started when, with the kind support of English Instructor Sarah Harrison, Dr. Gary approached Richard T. Minter, Dean of university studies and presented him with the idea. "I am very grateful for the support of the faculty and the student body who responded so supportively to this endeavor. we hope that this will be the first of many to follow," Dr. Gary said.

**Questions?
Comments?
Story Ideas?**

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Men's Basketball team builds on team chemistry

Continued from page 6
wants the freshman players to step up and take the challenge.

Plans for the playoffs are to make sure they get in the top 8 teams, Marquis said.

"We are halfway through conference with a record of 13-4 overall and 6-4 in conference. We are tied for fourth in conference play," he said.

This year's team is better than last years. One of the reasons is because only seven players were

healthy last year. This year nine players can be counted on, game-in and game-out. Five returning players from last year played a lot as freshmen, Marquis said.

If the game were on the line, Coach Marquis would like Tyrone Cole-Scott to have the ball in his hands.

Marquis recruits and disciplines his teams and has strong organization and leadership.

The goal in non-conference play is to stay confident and succeed.

TJC key players are

sophomores: Nate Garner, Ifeanyi Koggu, Tyrone Cole-Scott, Delbert Simpson and Schyler King.

They play a lot but the team doesn't rely on one person to play 38 or 39 minutes, unless foul trouble occurs.

In six years at TJC Coach Marquis has seen the sport program as well as campus life improve.

Ifeanyi Koggu runs the offensive and gives his teammates open shots. He takes care of his school work and basketball be-

cause

"We have study hall which is mandatory," Koggu said. "We take our school work on the bus when we travel."

"This year's team has more depth than last. They also play good together and everybody knows each other's roles on the court," Koggu said.

"Coach Marquis does a great job preparing the team for competition," Koggu said.

Koggu's goals are to graduate from college and

play Division I basketball. He also wants to play at the next level in the NBA.

"The difference between this year's season and last year's is, last year they lost a lot of guys during break and this year they didn't. This year has included injuries, but the depth on the bench helped out. The key to going to the playoffs is having confidence to trust each other on the court and stay strong as a team." Assistant Athletic Director Charles Smith said.

TJC considers building more parking

On Fifth Street just west of Magnolia is a small space of property tucked into the trees. Those who have driven by there recently probably noticed that the land is being cleared.

TJC owns this property which is being prepared for site evaluation.

"The evaluation will help decide how the space can be used," Fred Peters, director of marketing and public information, said.

They will count to determine the number of parking spaces that could be constructed.

"The project is up and running and the tests will help put the land to best use," Peters said.

Travel Expo to be held on campus March 3

A Texas Travel Expo will be held from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. March 3, in the Gentry Gym, outside the practice field, and the Ornelas Health and Physical Education Center.

Different companies participating will show the latest in camping equipment, scenic routes and large travel trailers.

More than 700 people are expected to attend.

Vendors will sell hamburgers, hot dogs, corn dogs and various other refreshments.

Tyler Morning Telegraph will sponsor this Expo.

College recruiters answer student questions

Students who are interested in transferring to a four-year university are encouraged to visit with school recruiters when they are on campus.

They will be here to answer questions about their universities.

Recruiters will be in Jenkins Hall in the east stairwell from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Texas A&M-Commerce

Feb. 22, March 22, April 19

Texas A&M-Texarkana

Feb. 6

UT-Arlington Feb. 15, March 1 and April 11

Palmer acting head coach

By Chris Shepperd
Editor

TJC announced Jan. 26 that Danny Palmer will be the new acting head football coach.

This move comes in the wake of the firing of former Head Coach Jamie Critchlow.

Palmer joined the TJC Apaches' staff in December 2006, as the Defensive Coordinator. He now will embrace the role of caring for the whole team.

"Danny has very extensive coaching experience," Fred Peters, director of marketing and public information, said.

Palmer is a former Apache who has returned to his old stomping grounds after several notable stops.

His coaching career most recently made a stop

in Houston as head coach and athletic director at Chavez High School.

His coaching resume includes stays at Texarkana, Pampa, Waco Richfield and Bonham high schools as head coach.

He also served stints at UT-Arlington, Oklahoma State, Northwest Mississippi Community College, Austin Peay State University, Texas Southern University and University of Houston as an assistant coach.

"Danny comes with a terrific track record and a rapport with our student-athletes, area coaches and our recruits for 2007. We are glad to have him serve with us during this time of transition." Intercollegiate Athletics Director Dr. Tim Drain said.